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AM-79

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Deputies' Meeting

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Friday, 2 January 1953

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PRESENT: Messrs. Dulles, Wolf, Becker, Hedden, Helms, [redacted]

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Mr. Dulles noted the [redacted] approach of certain Russian diplomatic officers to our diplomatic mission in Athens. Mr. Hedden pointed out that this was apparently part of a general pattern and expressed the opinion that it may signify a general effort at rapprochement. He suspects that those who are making these approaches are intelligence people of greater importance than their ostensible rank would suggest and holding wide influence within their mission.

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Mr. Helms:

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a. Raised the question of the [redacted] military attaché [redacted] to avoid contact with attaches from the West, and suggested that this cable was sent simply to inform Mr. Dulles, so that if the [redacted] Attaché should appear to be unduly standoffish we would know why. He recommended simply telling [redacted] we had noted the information about [redacted] instructions. Mr. Dulles agreed.

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b. Noted that [redacted] has offered to help us or [redacted] Mr. Hedden expressed the view that the whole concept of border crossing in non-combat areas should be reviewed in terms of its cost and returns, and noted that he was preparing a memorandum on this subject.

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Mr. Becker:

a. Summarized intelligence which indicates a build-up on the part of Communist China, suggesting an imminent military move: decided up-swing in propaganda, air reinforcement, movement of ground forces, civilian evacuation of Kaesong. Various signs pointed to 9 to 14 February as a critical week.

b. Reported that the situation in Colombia is in abeyance for the moment with the potentiality of breaking out anew at any time.

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